

## Intellectual Property and IT

Intellectual property relating to the copying and modifying of text, images, sound and video (fair use policies)

Information Technology has raised more issues or concerns for Intellectual Property rights. Not only is it easier to transport, send and store information but it has also made it easier to sample, copy, & alter information. It has produced grey areas surrounding fair use and GNU

An essay on Copyright Issues in [Digital Media](#)

The [Turnitin](#) article from News line poses some VERY interesting discussion questions about the ethics of policing ethics. Also of note is that, IT has made it possible for Turnitin to help police plagiarism.

## Software and Game Piracy

### Software Piracy

"Is the illegal reproduction and distribution of software applications, whether for business or personal use" (Microsoft 2007).

Most people believe that is copying and selling software or games but in fact it can take many different forms and laws are different in other countries. Even within a culture attitudes may and software/game piracy may be 'seen as normal'

- [Wikipedia](#) reference. What are interesting are the different forms of copyright infringement and different country attitudes.
- [BBC](#) videos related to piracy
- [BBC](#) videos related to intellectual property
- [BBC news article](#) Software piracy 'seen as normal'.
- [Software](#) piracy in Egypt

*Intellectual property protection on networks*, for example, [site licenses](#), file access

- Site licenses allow organizations to install as many copies on any computer within the organization. It can be coupled with 'take home' licensing.
- Restricting access to files on a network or servers can be controlled through permissions. This reduces the chance of theft.

### Software license

A [software license](#) refers to the permissions, rights, and restrictions associated with certain software, or a component of that software. The use of the software without the license gives the owner of the software the opportunity to sue and is an infringement on [copyright](#) laws. When installing software, the user must accept to a policy and terms agreement, and if they do not, they cannot install the software.

A single user license is used, as you can guess, for one person. This pretty much means a license for home/private use. This is registered to one name, and with this license, the software can be installed only on one computer. Sometimes you can have up to five installations for software during single use, incase you need to reinstall, or have multiple computers. A multi-user license is one that is primarily used for organizations such as a company or school. These licenses cost much more, depending on how many people will be using the software. A site license is a license that gives permission for a specific action to occur at a specific location on the web. A software site license refers to a license that does not restrict the use of the software to a number of users, but rather the site or location where the software is being used. So for example, one could get a site license for a company site, where all the employees can use the software.

### Copyright infringement

Copyright infringement (or copyright violation) is the unauthorized use of material which is covered by [copyright](#) law, in a manner that violates one of the original copyright owner's [exclusive rights](#), such as the right to reproduce or perform the copyrighted work, or to make [derivative works](#) that build upon it. The slang term [bootleg](#) (derived from the use of the shank of a [boot](#) for the purposes of [smuggling](#)) is often used to describe illicitly copied material.

For electronic and audio-visual media, unauthorized reproduction and distribution is occasionally referred to as piracy or theft . The legal basis for this usage dates from the same era, and has been consistently applied until the present time. Critics of the use of the term "piracy" to describe such practices contend that it unfairly equates copyright infringement with more sinister activity, though courts often hold that under law the two terms are interchangeable.

## Methods of copyright infringement

The unlawful downloading of pornography and [sharing](#) of recorded music in the form of [MP3](#) and other audio files is more prominent than ever, even after the demise of [Napster](#) and a series of infringement suits brought by the [American recording industry](#). Promotional [screener DVDs](#) distributed by movie studios (often for consideration for awards) are a common source of unauthorized copying when movies are still in theatrical release, and the [MPAA](#) has attempted to restrict their use. Movies are also still copied by someone sneaking a [camcorder](#) into a movie theater and secretly taping the projection (also known as "[CAM](#)"), although such copies are often of lesser quality than copied versions of the officially released film. Sharing copied music is legal in many countries, such as [Canada](#), and parts of Europe, provided that this information is neither advertised, nor that the songs be sold.

[Bootleg recordings](#) are musical recordings that have not been officially released by the artist or their associated management or production companies. They may consist of demos, outtakes or other studio material, or of illicit recordings of live performances. Music enthusiasts may use the term "bootleg" to differentiate these otherwise unavailable recordings from "pirated" copies of commercially released material, but these recordings are still covered by copyright despite their lack of formal release, and their distribution is still against the law.

People illegally selling copyrighted material are known to peddle VCDs, CDs, and DVDs by the roadside, [market](#), [night market](#), [Pasar malam](#), etc. in some countries. The illegal use of text content is a form of copyright infringement. It is common on the [world wide web](#) for text to be copied from one site to another without consent of the author.